

Juniper Ridge Landfill - Timeline

- 1989 – Maine Legislature bans new or expanded commercial solid waste disposal facilities and creates Maine Waste Management Agency to oversee future capacity development.
- 1994 – Maine Waste Management Agency purchases and seeks a permit for Carpenter Ridge Landfill in T2 R8 (located West of Lincoln, Maine) to be held as an undeveloped landfill site until needed in the future.
- 1995 – Maine Department of Environmental Protection permits Carpenter Ridge to accept special wastes.
- 1995 – Legislature abolishes Maine Waste Management Agency and moves many of the agency's responsibilities to the State Planning Office.
- 2003 – To help reduce the paper mill's energy costs and save jobs at Georgia Pacific/Fort James in Old Town, Governor Baldacci's Administration negotiates an agreement that leads to the State acquiring the paper company's landfill and makes the State's operator responsible for providing disposal capacity and fuel wood for the mill's biomass boiler, at below-market prices.
- 2003 – The Maine Legislature directs the State to acquire the West Old Town Landfill (subsequently renamed it the Juniper Ridge Landfill).
- 2003 – The State Planning Office seeks competitive proposals for a qualified landfill operator and awards a contract to Casella Waste Systems, Inc.
- 2004 – The State Planning Office and Casella enter into an operating services agreement that includes a fuel supply agreement, a cap on tipping fees, exclusions on certain wastes, and a requirement that the operator apply for additional landfill capacity by a date certain.
- 2004 – The Department of Environmental Protection approves the transfer of the landfill's operating license to the State Planning Office.
- 2004 – The Board of Environmental Protection considers an appeal of the license transfer and upholds the decision.
- 2005 – An appeal of the license transfer is made to the Penobscot Superior Court.
- 2006 – The Penobscot Superior Court upholds the license transfer.
- 2006 – The State's landfill operator, Casella, begins accepting construction and demolition debris and other in-state generated waste at Juniper Ridge.
- 2006 – The first amendment to the landfill's operating services agreement is signed, delaying the date by which the operator is required to submit an expansion application.

- 2006 – The second amendment to the landfill’s operating services agreement is signed, assigning rights held by Fort James to Red Shield, the new operator of the mill in Old Town. Also, it allowed for the limited disposal of out-of-state generated by-passed construction and demolition debris, to permit the operator to fulfill its fuel commitment to the mill owner. However before the amendment can take effect, the State Planning Office and Casella Waste Systems, Inc. withdraw the necessary corresponding amendment to the environmental license that would have allowed disposal of by-passed construction and demolition debris.
- 2006 – The State Planning Office and Casella Waste Systems, Inc. submit a preliminary information report to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, for a proposed expansion of the Juniper Ridge Landfill.
- 2009 – The operator of the state-owned landfill prepares an application, as required under the operating services agreement, for the expansion of the Juniper Ridge Landfill for the State Planning Office, to be submitted to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.
- 2009 - The Legislature amends Maine’s solid waste management laws to remove the presumption of public benefit for state-owned disposal facilities.
- 2009 - The State Planning Office and its, landfill operator, Casella Waste Systems, submit an application for a public benefit determination to the Department of Environmental Protection for the proposed expansion of the Juniper Ridge Landfill
- 2009 – The commercially-owned and operated Pine Tree Landfill in Hampden is closed in accordance with an agreement between the Department of Environmental Protection, the Town of Hampden, and the landfill owner, Casella Waste Systems
- 2010 - The Department of Environmental Protection issues a draft denial on the public benefit determination for expanding Juniper Ridge. State Planning Office/Casella withdraws the application.